

TAFT RECEIVES GLOWING REPORTS

After Conference, Says Leaders
Seem To Be Unanimous Re-
garding Probability of
His Re-election.

HILLES GUEST AT DINNER

Secretary Knox, Senator Crane,
Barnes, Koenig and Others
Meet President and Tell
Him Things That Make
Him Beam with Smiles.

President Taft conferred with a
large number of the leaders in the Re-
publican campaign in the Empire
Room at the Hotel Manhattan last
night. It was the largest conference
in which he has taken part during the
campaign. It was said that the ma-
jority of the reports received by him
were optimistic.

When the President received the
newspaper men at 11:30 o'clock he was
all smiles as he spoke of what he had
heard. He said:

"A number of distinguished gentle-
men with whom I have conferred
seemed to be in entire accord as to
the wisdom that the American people would
show if they should re-elect me, and
also as to the reasonable probability
that they would."

The discussion was largely in regard
to the general situation and the par-
ticular situation in the various sections
represented by the men present. It
was said that no formal plans for the
remainder of the campaign were talked
of. It is likely, however, that some
action may be taken in certain dis-
tricts to meet certain situations.

Crane and Hilles at Dinner.

The President reached the city over
the Pennsylvania Railroad at 6 o'clock,
and went directly to the Hotel Manhat-
tan, where he dined as the guest of
Chairman Hilles of the national com-
mittee. Others at the table were
Charles P. Taft and Henry W. Taft,
brothers of the President; Senator W.
Murray Crane, of Massachusetts; Major
Rhodes, his military secretary, and
Lieutenant Timmins, his naval aid.

The dinner lasted until nearly 9
o'clock. At that time the leaders who
had been invited to meet the President
began to go upstairs. Among the first
to go were George B. Sheldon, trans-
mitter of the national committee; State
Chairman William Barnes, Jr.; William
Nelson Cromwell, Clarence H. Kelsey,
president of the Title Guarantee and
Trust Company and a classmate of the
President at Yale; and Morton E.
Lewis, former state Senator and chair-
man of the executive committee in this
state.

Samuel S. Koenig, president of the
New York County committee, was also
one of the earliest arrivals.

Secretary Knox of the State Depart-
ment was present for a short time.
Later came former Congressman J.
Van Vechten Olcott, former Congress-
man Herbert Parsons, Franklin Q.
Brown, assistant treasurer of the na-
tional committee; Isaac Ullman, of
New Haven; Thomas C. Webb, of New
Jersey; Samuel W. Fairchild, president
of the Union League Club; Henry
Crawley, A. B. Leach, the bond man,
of New Jersey; Charles D. Norton,
formerly secretary to the President and
now vice-president of the National City
Bank, and Naval Officer F. J. H.
Kracke, of Kings County.

James B. Reynolds, secretary of the
national committee; John W. Hutchin-
son, Jr., head of the speakers' bureau
at national headquarters, and other
members of the headquarters staff were
present.

Among those who had been invited
were the various Congress candidates
in New York City, and most of them
were present and told the President at
first hand of conditions in their dis-
tricts. Most of them came directly
from meetings.

State Chairman Barnes laughed
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SHERMAN BRAVELY FIGHTING FOR LIFE

Vice-President Critically Ill, But Physician
Hopes for Improvement—Vital Crisis
Is Not Yet at Hand.

Utica, Oct. 29.—Vice-President Sher-
man's attending physician, Dr. Fayette
H. Peck, issued the following statement
relative to the condition of his patient
at 6 o'clock to-night:

For the last week or ten days Mr.
Sherman's friends and physicians have
felt a great deal of solicitude about him,
and for the last three or four days his
uremic condition has caused a great
deal of alarm.

After a very disturbing day yester-
day, he fell into a natural sleep at 11
o'clock last night, without the aid of
sleep producing drugs, and slept until
5 o'clock this morning, quietly and
comfortably.

This afternoon there has been a re-
currence of his disturbance, but for the
larger part of the afternoon he has been
resting quietly. His heart strength is
keeping up very well. His pulse is from
80 to 86; temperature practically nor-
mal; respiration from 17 to 30.

After his restless and unsatisfactory
day Mr. Sherman dropped off to sleep
while sitting in his chair at 8:30
o'clock to-night, and at 11 o'clock still
was sleeping.

Dr. Peck, who had been with him
most of the time for twenty-four
hours, left for home, expressing con-
fidence that his patient would go
through the night without great dis-
tress. His kidneys were acting some-
what more freely.

During the day there were several
emergency calls from the Sherman
house for the physician. The Vice-
President was not in great pain, but
was extremely restless and at times
irrational, both of which conditions
were caused by the presence of uremic
poison, due to the inaction of the kid-
neys.

Dr. Peck makes no effort to minimize
the seriousness of this condition, but
he is hopeful of being able to stimulate
the kidneys, and, if he succeeds, he
expects a marked improvement. In no
event does he expect a vital crisis for
a day or two.

There is no effort to conceal the facts
concerning the Vice-President's case.
On the contrary, both Dr. Peck and
Mr. Sherman's family concede its criti-
cal nature. The doctor says, however,
that kidney diseases are of such an
illusive nature that it is quite impos-
sible to foretell the course of any given
case with exactness. Mr. Sherman's
robust constitution is in his favor, but
the fact that he has lost ground steadily
since August weighs against him.

Dr. Janeway, of New York, and Dr.
Elsner, of Syracuse, both of whom
have been called into consultation dur-
ing the last ten days, confirm Dr.
Peck's diagnosis, leaving no doubt that
the kidneys are the seat of the malady
and that the heart, the arteries and the
muscles about the heart are all serious-
ly involved.

up to their old tricks in some states.
For instance, in Rhode Island they
have rented all the halls, in an effort
to keep the Democrats from having a
place to hold meetings, and, notwith-
standing this, I had the pleasure of ad-
dressing a number of large meetings
in Providence, and I think the Demo-
crats have more than an even chance
of adding Rhode Island to their list.

"All the information I have been able
to secure in New York State points
strongly to the clean sweep that Con-
gressman Suiter will make for Gov-
ernor in the Empire State. We are
fortunate in having such a good friend
of the laboring people heading the
ticket in New York State."

Governor Harmon left New York for
Ohio last evening.

HARMON PLAYS "RUBE" ALONG BROADWAY

Governor of Ohio Saunters
Through Our Main Street
Talking Politics.

SH! THIS IS WILSON TOWN

One Hour in New York Satisfies
Buckeye Executive That
It's All Over but the
Shouting.

Governor Judson Harmon of Ohio as-
sumed yesterday the part of a soun-
der of political sentiment, and mingled
with business men and policemen and
any other variety of citizen who was will-
ing to talk politics in order to get first
hand information as to the situation in
New York City.

Unrecognized by anybody, Governor
Harmon strolled from Bowling Green
to the Fifth Avenue Building, where
the Democratic national headquarters
are buzzing with activity, stopping on
his way at all the political meetings he
passed and engaging in conversation at
least two score of men of various classes
whom he found willing to talk.

It was an uncontrollable desire to find
out in a direct way how things were
going in this state that prompted him
to the experiment, Governor Harmon
said. He had a faint feeling of being
regarded with increasing suspicion as
he made his way along Broadway and
buttonholed men to get their views on
the political situation, the Governor
said, and particularly strong was this
feeling when he stopped to interview
policemen.

There was some aid offered to him
through the noonday meetings that
were in progress just then, Governor
Harmon found, and as he walked up to
the crowd and listened to the speakers
an opportunity would arise to engage
in talk with some man who appeared
as if he might be willing to discuss po-
litical chances.

Apparently Governor Harmon did not
find much trouble in doing this, and the
two score or more interviews which he
had obtained in the course of an
hour.

Walking up Broadway the Governor
approached the policemen on duty and
began to talk with them about the
prospects of the Democratic nominees.
How he got at the uniformed men and
managed to loosen their tongues the
Governor would not disclose, but he
was proud of being able to say that he
had talked with many of them and got
the information he wanted without
having his identity disclosed.

"I have convinced myself that New
York State is going for Wilson and
Marshall by the largest majority ever
given a Democratic candidate, or any
candidate, in this state," was Gov-
ernor Harmon's summary of the infor-
mation he gathered.

HAZER SHOT BY FRESHMAN

Mortally Wounded in Masked
Attack—Companion Fled.

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.]
Raleigh, N. C., Oct. 29.—The faculty
and students of Wake Forest College
are unable to find the companion of
Frank Powers, seventeen years old,
who lies mortally wounded in College
Hospital to-night. His assailant, Gordon
Rhodes, a freshman, is held under
heavy bonds. Powers, the son of a
prominent physician, and his unknown
associate, both masked, according to
Rhodes, met the freshman about mid-
night and sprang at him. The fresh-
man shot twice, and Powers fell, the
other masked man running.

Rhodes says threats through the
mail, on bulletin boards and trees
caused him to arm himself. He had
accompanied a girl home and was as-
sailed from ambush, he says. It is be-
lieved that the companion of Powers
is a student.

FIRST VOTE TO TAFT AT 81

Residence Barred Veteran from
Casting Ballot Earlier.

[From The Tribune Bureau.]
Washington, Oct. 29.—Albert G. Hall,
eighty-one years old, will vote on No-
vember 5 for the first time, and his
ballot will be cast for President Taft.
He was born in the District of Colum-
bia, where the citizens are disfranch-
ised, and lived here until two years
ago, when he moved to Boylestown,
Penn.

Mr. Hall is now in Washington cele-
brating his birthday anniversary with
his twin brother, G. Alfred Hall, who
is also an ardent Taft man. The
brothers never have been separated on
their birthday.

Both men have held positions in the
government service. G. A. Hall was
for years in the Postoffice Department.
During the Civil War he performed the
duties of United States prize auc-
tioneer, with station at New Or-
leans, selling in the twenty-seven
months of his service \$6,000,000 or \$7,
000,000 worth of articles captured by
the federal army.

The twins were born at Vassalboro,
Kennebec County, Me. Both married
in the same year. G. A. Hall had nine
children, of whom two are alive. Six
of the eight children of A. G. Hall are
still living.

NEW \$10,000,000 HOTEL

Pennsylvania Railroad to Build
One, It Is Said.

Rumors were current in real estate
circles yesterday that the Pennsylvania
Railroad would build a big hotel on the
plot covering the block front on Seventh
avenue between 32d and 33d streets, which
it recently purchased from Thomas Di-
mond. The property is in the rear of the
Gimbel store.

The report said that McKim, Mead &
White had practically completed plans for
such a structure and that the railroad
had obtained a lease for the proposed
hotel. Between \$8,000,000 and \$10,000,000,
it was said, would be spent.

BECKER DECIDES ON NEW COUNSEL

Gives Illness of McIntyre as
Reason for Wanting Another
Lawyer to Prepare and
Argue Appeal Case.

TO BE SENTENCED TO-DAY

Agrees to Make No Statement
in Court and Will Probably Be
Taken at Once to "Death
House"—Gunmen Don't
Fear Shapiro.

On the eve of his sentence to the elec-
tric chair Charles Becker, who was
convicted of the murder of Herman
Rosenthal, announced last night that
he intended to change his counsel for
the preparation and argument of the
appeal of the case before the Court of
Appeals.

Becker gave the illness of John F.
McIntyre as the reason for considering
new counsel. John W. Hart, who was
associated with Mr. McIntyre in
Becker's defense, will appear for the
condemned man when he comes up for
sentence before Justice Goff to-day.

The sentence of death will be pro-
nounced at 10:30 a. m. Because of
Becker's recent inclination to discuss
his case Mr. Hart visited his client in
the Tombs yesterday, and extracted a
promise from him that he would not
attempt to make a statement in court
to-day. The whole proceeding is not
likely to occupy more than a few min-
utes. The prisoner will be given into
the custody of Sheriff Harburger fol-
lowing his arraignment.

The Sheriff said last night that un-
less the court granted a restraining or-
der on the request of counsel he in-
tended to start for Sing Sing with
Becker within two hours after he had
been sentenced.

During the trip from the Tombs to
the "death house" at Sing Sing Becker
will be under a close guard. The pris-
oner will be shackled to one of Sheriff
Harburger's assistants. A deputy
sheriff and three guards from the
Tombs will reinforce Sheriff Harburger.

District Attorney Whitman said last
night that William Shapiro, the chair-
man of the "murder car," which con-
veyed the four gunmen to and from the
scene of the Rosenthal shooting, had
made a complete "confession" in the
form of an affidavit during a two-hour
conference yesterday in the District
Attorney's office, at which Mr. Whit-
man, Shapiro and the latter's counsel,
Aaron J. Levy, were present.

Charles G. F. Walle, counsel for the
four gunmen, when told of the con-
fession of Shapiro last night, said he
would discount the identification of
"Lefty" Louis, "Whitey" Lewis, "Dago"
Frank and "Tup" the Blood by re-
putable witnesses at the trials. He de-
clared there was no chance of any of
his clients making a "confession," as
they had nothing to confess, and none
of them intended to submit a plea for
a lesser degree of murder.

The gunmen, through their counsel,
issued a signed statement from the
Tombs denying there was any dissen-
sion among them. They said all were
willing and anxious to go to trial and
were confident of acquittal.

Though District Attorney Whitman
declined yesterday to discuss the possi-
bilities of the acceptance of a plea of
murder in the second degree or first
degree manslaughter from "Red Phil"
Davidson, the slayer of "Big Jack"
Zelig, whose trial will be called to-day
before Justice Goff, it is understood
that the defendant, through his counsel,
James W. Osborne, will submit a
plea for a lesser degree of the crime
charged when his client is brought to
the bar, following the arraignment and
sentence of Becker.

NOTICE OF APPEAL READY

Will Be Served on District At-
torney Following Sentence.

The announcement from the Tombs
last night by Charles Becker that he
intended to change counsel for the
preparation and argument of his case
before the Court of Appeals came as a
surprise to the District Attorney and
others interested in the case. John F.
McIntyre, who defended Becker as
chief counsel, is ill in bed at his home,
at No. 163 West 77th street, suffering
from a nervous breakdown as the re-
sult of the strain of the trial. Becker
said he felt it necessary to change
counsel on account of Mr. McIntyre's
illness.

"Our first arrangement was that Mr.
McIntyre should carry the case through
to the appeal in the event of a con-
viction," said Becker, "but because of his
physical condition and the uncertainty
of his incapacity I feel that I must get
other counsel. I have three weeks yet
in which to decide whom I will retain,
and I have not yet made up my mind."

Louis J. Grant, a lawyer and former
policeman, with offices at No. 99 Nassau
street, was in conference with
Becker at the Tombs for two hours
yesterday in regard to the change of
counsel. Mr. Grant has acted in a
semi-advisory capacity for Becker ever
since his arrest. Besides Grant, Becker
is said to have under consideration
Francis L. Wellman and John J. Gra-
ham, Surrogate of Nassau County.
Surrogate Graham visited Becker in
the Tombs yesterday, and the prisoner
was favorably impressed with him, it
was said.

Continued on third page, fourth column.

MRS. CLEVELAND TO WED T. J. PRESTON

Widow of Ex-President Announces Engage-
ment to Professor at Wells College—
Wedding Date Not Fixed.

Princeton, N. J., Oct. 29.—Mrs.
Grover Cleveland authorizes the an-
nouncement of her engagement to
Thomas Jes Preston, professor of
archaeology and history of arts at Wells
College. The date of the marriage is
not yet determined, but will be an-
nounced later.

The announcement of the engage-
ment was made to-night by President
John Grier Hibben of Princeton Uni-
versity, who said:

"Professor Preston is fifty years of
age. He is a graduate of Princeton
and one whom we hold in very high
esteem. As a young man he began
his university studies at Columbia,
which, however, were interrupted on
account of illness. At that time he
gave up the idea of completing his
education and went into business, in
which he made a very rapid and nota-
ble success, establishing himself at the
head of a very prosperous manufactur-
ing company in Newark, N. J.

"After securing a substantial fortune
and feeling keenly that continued busi-
ness success could not compensate for
his abandoned college career, he de-
termined to attain a long desired end
which his earlier years had denied him.
Although nearing the age of forty, he
nevertheless closed his active business
career and went abroad to study for
two years at the Sorbonne, Paris.

"Returning to America, he came to
Princeton for two more years of addi-
tional study. On account of the wide
range and unusual excellence of his
work, both in undergraduate and gradu-
ate studies, he took at the same com-
mencement not only the degree of
Litt. B., but the degree of M. A. as
well—a very unique attainment. He
was also elected at that time to the
Princeton chapter of the Phi Beta
Kappa Society.

"Professor Preston was exceedingly
popular and made many friends while
at Princeton. He was subsequently
appointed Fellow of the American
School of Classical Study at Rome, and
later won a competition open to all
universities of the United States the
Fellowship of the Archaeological Insti-
tute of America. After pursuing his
studies abroad he returned to Princeton
and took his degree of Doctor of Philo-
sophy. He was then called to his
present professorship of Wells College.
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas J. Preston,
sr., live in South Orange, N. J."

Mrs. Grover Cleveland before she be-
came the "White House Bride," on
June 2, 1886, was Miss Frances Folsom,
daughter of Oscar Folsom, of Buf-
falo. Her father was a lawyer, and
former partner of Grover Cleveland
when he was practicing there. He
died in 1875, when his daughter was
eleven years old.



MRS. GROVER CLEVELAND.
Who announced her engagement to Pro-
fessor Thomas Jes Preston, of Wells
College, where she was once a student.

Miss Folsom was born in Buffalo on
July 21, 1864. She was graduated from
Wells College, at Aurora, N. Y., in
1885, one year before her marriage to
her father's former partner, who was
twenty-seven years her senior. She
has been a trustee of the college since
1887.

She proved herself one of the most
popular mistresses of the White House,
though she was only twenty-two years
old when she became the "first lady of
the land."

Her first child, Ruth, who died, was
born in the White House in 1891. Es-
ther was born in 1893 and Marion in
1895. Her only son, Richard F., was
born in 1897. The engagement of Es-
ther Cleveland to Randolph D. West,
of New York, son of Professor An-
drew West, of Princeton, has been ru-
mored several times recently.

After his retirement from the Presi-
dency Mr. Cleveland made his perma-
nent home in Princeton, and Mrs.
Cleveland has continued to reside there
since the former President died, in
1908. Her two daughters, Esther and
Marion, and her son, Richard F., are
living with her there.

On two or three occasions previous to
this it has been rumored that Mrs.
Cleveland was engaged to different
men, but in each case it was promptly
denied.

INTERVENTION NEAR, SAYS INSPIRED NOTE

"Destruction of European Turkey Could Not
Be Tolerated," According to Remark-
able Dispatch from Vienna.

Berlin, Oct. 29.—The "Frankfurter
Zeitung" prints a remarkable dispatch
from Vienna, evidently emanating from
official sources, which says: "The time
for intervention by the powers is near,
whether requested or not. If Turkey
is defeated in the impending battle be-
tween Adrianople and Constantinople it
would be high time for Europe to look
to its interests, since the destruction of
European Turkey could not be toler-

ated, nor could the occupation of Con-
stantinople by another power.

"Blood enough has been spilled, and
peace can be offered to both sides, if
Bulgaria is defeated, with good pros-
pect of acceptance. Austria is not
likely to attack Serbia, as that would
mean immediate war with the Balkan
alliance. A decisive battle is expected
in a few days; hence intervention is
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TURKEY SUES FOR PEACE?

Vienna Hears That Serbia Has
Been Approached.

[By Cable to The Tribune.]
London, Oct. 30.—A report comes in
a Vienna dispatch to "The Daily Tele-
graph" that Turkey has approached
Serbia with a view to peace negotia-
tions, as Serbia so far has taken pos-
session of the most important places.

King Peter has already warned King
Ferdinand of this scheme, which is
regarded as a Turkish attempt to stir
up dissension in the Balkan federation.

HAVE NOISELESS BIPLANE

Army Aviators Trying Out One
with Silent Motor.

[From The Tribune Bureau.]
Washington, Oct. 29.—Officers of the
Signal Corps and the army aviators at
College Park are greatly interested in
experiments being conducted at the
aviation school with a noiseless motor,
which has been installed in a rebuilt
biplane. In several flights made in this
biplane by Lieutenant Harry Graham
the motor acted perfectly.

The terrific noise that always accom-
panied the aeroplane in its flight is
practically eliminated, and the biplane
travels through the air almost silently.

BATTLE BEGINS; TURKEY'S FATE IN THE BALANCE

Nazim Pacha, Cut Off from
Reinforcements and Supplies,
Faces Last Chance to
Retrieve Defeat.

FRONT EXTENDS 50 MILES

Sofia Report Indicates Suc-
cessful Sweep of Bulgarian
Cavalry Around Turkish
Rear, Cutting Off Con-
stantinople.

GREEK ARMS MEET SUCCESS

King George's Forces Only Ninety
Miles Distant from Serbian
Troops, Who Are Already
at Veles and
Advancing.

[By Cable to The Tribune.]

London, Oct. 30.—A great battle,
which may finally decide the fate of
the Turkish Empire in Europe, is now
evidently taking place. Late last night
a brief message was transmitted from
Constantinople to the effect that a tele-
gram had been received from Nazim
Pacha, the Turkish commander in
chief, yesterday afternoon which stated
that an important battle was in pro-
gress along the Turkish front, and that
his troops were gaining ground. This
was the only message to come through
from either side for many hours, an
ominous silence which indicates that
grave events are happening.

The silence was broken by a report
from Sofia to the effect that Bulgarian
cavalry had captured Rodosto, a port
on the Sea of Marmora, twenty miles
southwest of Tchorlu. This may be a
dramatic move to get round the Turk-
ish right wing.

This report was followed by word of
an "official announcement" in Con-
stantinople to the effect that the rail-
way to Kirk-Kiliseh was again in op-
eration and that the Turks had begun
an offensive movement.

A dispatch from the front to the Vi-
enna "Reichspost" says the Eastern
Bulgarian army, which is marching
southward a short distance from the
Black Sea coast, made further progress
yesterday. A large mass of Turkish
troops were located on the Ergene
River, to the north of Tchorlu, and
fighting appears imminent.

It is officially announced that Com-
mander Djafar Tatar Bey, attached to
the General Staff, has advanced with
the Turkish army to Timovo, after a
forced march, says a Constantinople
dispatch to "The Daily Chronicle."

The Bulgarians were defeated in a
battle in which both sides lost heavily
and the town was recaptured.

The Turkish commander, adds the
dispatch, pursued his advantage and
drove the enemy further to the north,
where another engagement occurred,
both sides having in the meantime been
reinforced. The Turks were again vic-
torious. The Bulgarian losses were
considerable, especially in the cavalry.

In a Critical Position.

Whether the Turks are gaining
ground or not time, of course, will
show, but in view of the absolute un-
trustworthiness of news from Turkish
sources the statement should be re-
ceived with reserve for the present.
What is certain is that the main Turk-
ish army is now fighting for its life.
Its principal lines of communication
are cut and the bold tactics of the Bul-
garians have placed Nazim's force in a
critical position.

Nazim, with four army corps, is hold-
ing the line from Tchorlu to Lule Bur-
gas, his front thus extending nearly
fifty miles. He appears to be occupy-
ing a perilous position, with the Bul-
garians on his left flank at Baba Enk
cutting him off from the army of